

II. Remarks/Arguments

A. Remarks.

Claims 1-36, 41-46, and 50-53 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being anticipated by Tengal et al., US 5,940,812 in view of Altman et al. U.S. 6,366,892.

B. Response

1. 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) - Claims 1-36, 41-46, and 50-53

Tengal '812 was cited as disclosing a method for borrowing/lending, wherein the method involved "accepting lender data via a computer network ... the type of collateral to be used in the loan ... and what loan terms are negotiable by said prospective lenders."

Applicant respectfully disagrees that Tengal '812 discloses the type of collateral to be used. Tengal '812 notes examples of collateral, but does not include the type of collateral as an option. This is different from the collateral element of amended claims 1 and 19 that include "collateral available" and "collateral required". A system or method that includes the option of indicating what collateral is available/required has unique and inventive features over the method of Tengal '812. Altman '892 also fails to disclose or suggest these elements. As such, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 1 and 19 be reconsidered and removed.

Altman '892 concerns single lender, applicant respectfully urges that combining Altman '892 with Tengal '812 produces an unworkable combination. For at least this reason, applicants assert the Tengal '812 and Altman '892 are inappropriate references for the rejection of these claims.

With regard to claims 4 and 22, these claims as amended include the element of "direct" communication between the prospective lender/borrower. This is advantageous during the loan process, for example during negotiations. Neither Tengal '812 nor Altman '892 include this

element of these claims. As such, it is respectfully requested this rejection be reconsidered and removed.

Applicant again respectfully disagrees that the elements of claims 43 or 44 are found in the cited references. The elements listed in these claims comprise distinct actions not inherently found within either Tengel '816 or Altman '892.

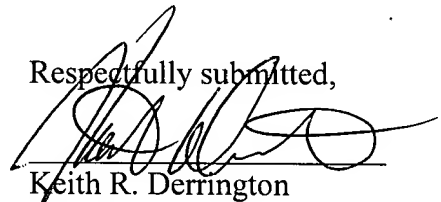
With regard to claims 7-8 and 25-26, it was asserted that the elements of these claims are disclosed in Tengel '816 and that these elements are well known. Applicant respectfully disagrees and requests official notice of these elements per MPEP 2144.03.

III. CONCLUSION

Should the Examiner have any questions, comments or suggestions in furtherance of the prosecution of the application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' representative by telephone or fax.

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Respectfully submitted,



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